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REPORT

*Of the Committee on Federal Relations, proposing amendments
to the Constitution of the United States.*

The Committee on Federal Relations have, according to order, had under consideration sundry resolutions to them referred, and amendments proposed to the Federal Constitution, and beg leave to report the following amendments to be proposed to the Constitution of the United States; to be appended to their former report:

ARTICLE XIII.

SECTION 1. In all the present territory of the United States, north of the parallel of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes of north latitude, involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime, is prohibited. In all the present territory, south of that line, involuntary servitude, as it now exists, shall remain and shall not be changed; nor shall any law be passed by Congress or the territorial legislature to hinder or prevent the taking of persons held to service or labor, from any of the States of this Union to said territory; nor to im-

10 pair the rights arising from said relation; nor shall said rights
11 be in any manner affected by any preëxisting law of Mexico;
12 but the same shall be subject to judicial cognizance in the
13 Federal courts, according to the remedies and practice of the
14 common law. When any territory, north or south of said
15 line, within such boundary as Congress may prescribe, shall
16 contain a population equal to that required for a member of
17 Congress, it shall, if its form of government be republican,
18 be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the
19 original States, with or without involuntary servitude, as
20 such Constitution of the State may provide. In all territory
21 which may hereafter be acquired by the United States, invo-
22 luntary servitude is prohibited, except for crime, north of the
23 latitude of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes; but shall
24 not be prohibited by Congress or any territorial legislature
25 south of said line.

SECTION 2. No territory shall be acquired by the United
2 States, except by discovery and for naval and commercial
3 stations, depots and transit routes, without the concurrence
4 of a majority of all the senators from States which allow in-
5 voluntary servitude, and a majority of all the senators from
6 States which prohibit that relation; nor shall territory be ac-
7 quired by treaty, unless the votes of a majority of the sena-
8 tors from each class of States hereinbefore mentioned be cast

9 as a part of the two-third majority necessary to the ratifica-
10 tion of such treaty.

SECTION 3. Neither the Constitution, nor any amendment
2 thereof, shall be construed to give Congress power to legis-
3 late concerning involuntary servitude in any State or territory
4 wherein the same is acknowledged or may exist by the laws
5 thereof, nor to interfere with or abolish the same in the Dis-
6 trict of Columbia, without the consent of Maryland and Vir-
7 ginia, and without the consent of the owners, or making the
8 owners, who do not consent, just compensation; nor the
9 power to interfere with or prohibit representatives and others
10 from bringing with them to the District of Columbia, retain-
11 ing and taking away, persons so held to labor or service, nor
12 the power to interfere with or abolish involuntary service in
13 places under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States
14 within those States and territories where the same is esta-
15 blished or recognized; nor the power to prohibit the removal
16 or transportation, by land or water, of persons held to labor,
17 or involuntary service in any State or territory of the United
18 States to any other State or territory thereof, where it is esta-
19 blished or recognized by law or usage; and the right during
20 transportation, by sea or river, of touching at ports, shores
21 and landings, and landing in case of need shall exist, but
22 not the right of sojourn or sale in any State or territory

23 against the laws thereof. Nor shall Congress have power to
24 authorize any higher rate of taxation on persons held to labor
25 or service than on land.

26 The bringing into the District of Columbia persons held to
27 labor or service for sale, or placing them in depots to be after-
28 wards transferred to other places for sale as merchandise,
29 is prohibited.

SECTION 4. The third paragraph of the second section of
2 the fourth article of the Constitution shall not be construed
3 to prevent any of the States, by appropriate legislation, and
4 through the action of their judicial and ministerial officers,
5 from enforcing the delivery of fugitives from labor to the per-
6 son to whom such service or labor is due.

SECTION 5. The importation of slaves, coolies or persons
2 held to service or labor, into the United States, and the terri-
3 tories from places beyond the limits thereof is hereby forever
4 prohibited.

SECTION 6. Congress shall provide by law that the United
2 States shall pay to the owner the full value of his fugitive
3 from labor, in all cases where the marshal, or other officer,
4 whose duty it was to arrest such fugitive, was prevented from
5 so doing by intimidation from mobs or riotous assemblages
6 or by violence, or when, after arrest, such fugitive was res-

7 cued by like intimidation or violence, and the owner thereby
8 deprived of the same.

SECTION 7. The elective franchise and the right to hold of-
2 fice, whether federal or territorial, shall not be exercised by
3 persons who are of the African race.

SECTION 8. No one of these amendments, nor the third
2 paragraph of the second section of the first article of the Con-
3 stitution, nor the third paragraph of the second section of
4 the fourth article thereof, shall be amended or abolished with-
5 out the consent of all the States.



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